

*Charity Number: SC024426*

# **West Sutherland Fisheries Trust**

**Annual Report and Financial Statements**

*Year ended 31 March 2025*

# West Sutherland Fisheries Trust

## Contents of the Financial Statements *for the year ended 31 March 2025*

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	Page
Report of the Trustees	1 - 2
Report of the Independent Examiner	3
Statement of Financial Activities	4
Balance Sheet	5
Notes to the Financial Statements	6 – 10

# West Sutherland Fisheries Trust

## Report of the Trustees *for the year ended 31 March 2025*

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The Trustees are pleased to present their report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.

### Legal and Administrative Information

<b>Charity name</b>	West Sutherland Fisheries Trust
<b>Charity number</b>	SC024426
<b>Registered office</b>	The Gardeners Cottage Scourie Lairg Sutherland IV27 4SX
<b>Trustees</b>	D Allison E Anderson D Davies S Harkins S Jeffreys A Johnson (Chair) D Low C Macleod D O'Driscoll R Osborne L Richardson (from August 2024)
<b>Independent examiner</b>	T P Wright Chartered Accountant 396 Elphin By Lairg Sutherland IV27 4HH
<b>Solicitors</b>	None
<b>Bankers</b>	The Royal Bank of Scotland plc 11 Argyle Street Ullapool IV26 2UD

# West Sutherland Fisheries Trust

## Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2025

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### Structure, governance and management

West Sutherland Fisheries Trust is a Trust, originally established by the District Salmon Fishery Boards of the rivers Hope, Polla, Dionard, Grudie, Inchard, Laxford, Inver and Kirkaig, and is registered as a charity with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator.

The Trust was established under and is regulated by a Deed of Trust dated 12 February 1996, whereby the trustees (who must number between 5 and 12, inclusive) are responsible for electing the Board of Trustees which meets on a regular basis to consider strategic decisions, implementation of which is then delegated to employees. On 18 March 2020, the Board adopted a set of Regulations to supplement the Deed of Trust, pursuant to clause 10.12 thereof.

All donations and funding to the Trust are accepted only under the following terms and conditions:-

- 1) The donor/funder must support the aims and objectives of the Trust; and
- 2) Any funding, whatever the amount, will only be accepted on the basis that it will not change, bias or affect the aims and objectives of the Trust.

### Aims, Objectives and Activities

The charity's main objects and activities are:

- 1) To conserve and enhance salmonids and river systems in the area by conducting research and survey projects and by providing advice where necessary.
- 2) To bring together fish farming and angling interests and to make contact with, and provide information to, all local communities.
- 3) To liaise with other fisheries trusts and also fisheries research organisations and other interested parties.

### Achievements and Performance

The Trust continues to monitor the river systems within west Sutherland, looking at fish, invertebrates and non-native invasive species. It also undertakes work on the removal of invasive species within the area as well as the monitoring of sea lice populations on sea trout within a number of estuaries. The Biologists continue to liaise with interested parties and other Scientists to ensure best practice is followed within the area.

### Financial review

Details of the financial results are set out in following pages.

### Plans for future periods

The Trust plans to continue its current activities, working under the 2024-28 Fisheries Management Plan developed for the area. However, it will remain flexible in order to address issues that may arise and will affect the fish populations of west Sutherland. A review of wild fisheries was undertaken by the Scottish Government, aiming to modernise the way that fisheries are managed throughout Scotland, with the Trust actively involved in the process. While this review has now answered some of the issues, there is still some ambiguity as to the management form proposed. This process has had a profound effect on the Charity and its funding, with the Trustees being proactive in the development of future practice and fundraising.

This report was approved by the Board and signed on its behalf by



A Johnson  
Trustee

Date: 5 December 2025

# West Sutherland Fisheries Trust

## Report of the Independent Examiners to the Trustees *for the year ended 31 March 2025*

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I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025 which are set out on pages 4 to 10.

### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (a-c) of the 2006 Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of independent examiner's statement**

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

### **Independent Examiner's Statement**

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulationshave not been met, or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Name            T P Wright

Qualification   Chartered accountant

Address        396 Elphin, By Lairg, IV27 4HH

Date            5 December 2025

# West Sutherland Fisheries Trust

## Statement of financial activities

Year ended 31 March 2025

		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £
	Notes						
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>							
Donations and legacies		17,938	-	17,938	22,793	-	25,299
Charitable activities		23,899	60,500	84,399	15,088	75,213	83,547
Other trading activities		5,431	-	5,431	5,344	-	5,430
Investment income		2,122	-	2,122	572	-	2,227
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>49,390</b>	<b>60,500</b>	<b>109,890</b>	<b>43,797</b>	<b>75,213</b>	<b>116,503</b>
<b>Resources expended:</b>							
Charitable activities		78,603	45,500	124,103	15,888	75,213	116,763
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>78,603</b>	<b>45,500</b>	<b>124,103</b>	<b>15,888</b>	<b>75,213</b>	<b>116,763</b>
<b>Net incoming/outgoing resources before transfers</b>		<b>(29,213)</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>(14,213)</b>	<b>27,909</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(260)</b>
<b>Transfers</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net movement in funds after transfers</b>		<b>(29,213)</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>(14,213)</b>	<b>27,909</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(260)</b>
Total funds brought forward	9	194,662	-	194,662	167,013	-	194,922
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>165,449</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>180,449</b>	<b>194,922</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>194,662</b>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

The notes form part of these financial statements.

# West Sutherland Fisheries Trust

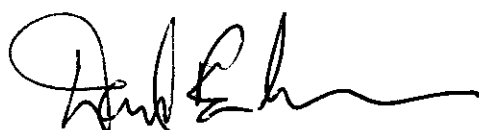
## Balance sheet

As at 31 March 2025

	Notes	£	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>				
Tangible assets	6		6,405	8,532
<b>Current Assets</b>				
Debtors	7	957	3,735	
Cash at bank and in hand		179,360	187,752	
		180,317	191,487	
<b>Creditors: falling due within one year</b>	8	6,273	5,357	
<b>Net Current Assets</b>			174,044	186,130
<b>Total Net Assets</b>			180,449	194,662
<b>Represented by:</b>				
Restricted income funds	9	15,000	-	
Unrestricted income funds	9	165,449	194,662	
<b>Total Funds</b>			180,449	194,662

Approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on its behalf on 5 December 2025

D Allison  
Trustee



# West Sutherland Fisheries Trust

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## Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2025

### 1 Accounting policies

#### *Basis of accounting*

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015) - Charities SORP (FRS102)', the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Companies Act 2006.

#### *Donations, gifts in kind and volunteer time*

Donations received are recorded at the time the charity becomes entitled to the resource. Gifts in kind income represent donated assets received by the charity and are recorded at the estimated current value the charity would expect to pay for the asset on the open market. The value of services provided by volunteers is not incorporated into the financial statements.

#### *Grants*

Grants received are included in incoming resources when they are receivable, except when conditions attached to such grants have not yet been fulfilled, when the income is deferred. Grants of a capital nature are treated as a restricted fund and released to the unrestricted funds over the life of the asset.

#### *Expenditure*

Expenditure is included on the accruals basis and recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay.

#### *Deferred income*

Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which it has been received.

#### *Fund accounting*

Restricted funds: funds held which are restricted for use for specific purposes.

Unrestricted funds: funds which the trustees are free to use, in accordance with the charitable objects.

Designated funds: funds which the trustees set aside for a specific purpose.

#### *Tangible fixed assets and depreciation*

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost less residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment	-	20-25% reducing balance
Motor vehicles	-	25% reducing balance

#### *Taxation*

The Association is a charity for tax purposes and relief given under S.505 Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.



# West Sutherland Fisheries Trust

## Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2025

<b>2 Incoming resources</b>	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £
<b><i>Donations and legacies</i></b>						
Donations	11,488	-	11,488	18,329	-	18,329
Gift aid	-	-	-	440	-	440
Rental value of properties made freely available	6,000	-	6,000	6,000	-	6,000
Membership subscriptions	450	-	450	530	-	530
	<u>17,938</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,938</u>	<u>25,299</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25,299</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total Funds £	Total Funds £	Total 2024 £
<b><i>Charitable activities</i></b>						
DSFB	-	30,000	30,000	-	15,000	15,000
Tracking project	-	-	-	-	-	-
Laxford project	-	10,000	10,000	-	10,000	10,000
Nature Scot	-	13,000	13,000	-	10,975	10,975
FMS generated	-	7,500	7,500	-	25,130	25,130
Survey project work	23,899	-	23,899	22,442	-	22,442
	<u>23,899</u>	<u>60,500</u>	<u>84,399</u>	<u>22,442</u>	<u>61,105</u>	<u>83,547</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total Funds £	Total Funds £	Total 2024 £
<b><i>Other trading activities and income</i></b>						
Other income	431	-	431	430	-	430
Employment allowance	5,000	-	5,000	5,000	-	5,000
	<u>5,431</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,431</u>	<u>5,430</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,430</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total Funds £	Total Funds £	Total 2024 £
<b><i>Investment income</i></b>						
Bank interest	<u>2,122</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,122</u>	<u>2,227</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,227</u>
<b>Total income</b>	<u>49,390</u>	<u>60,500</u>	<u>109,890</u>	<u>55,398</u>	<u>61,105</u>	<u>116,503</u>

# West Sutherland Fisheries Trust

## Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2025

<b>3 Resources expended</b>	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £
Wages and salaries	47,616	27,564	75,180	33,557	36,840	70,397
Employer's National Insurance	4,937	2,858	7,795	3,434	3,770	7,204
Pensions	1,978	1,145	3,123	1,434	1,575	3,009
Demonstration/Events/Promotion	560	324	884	612	671	1,283
Project works subcontracted	7,037	4,073	11,110	4,223	4,637	8,860
Rent	3,800	2,200	6,000	2,860	3,140	6,000
Rates and water	804	465	1,269	605	664	1,269
Light and heat	1,140	660	1,800	72	78	150
Protective clothing, equipment etc	434	251	685	239	263	502
Insurance	1,367	791	2,158	1,000	1,098	2,098
Motor expenses	3,466	2,007	5,473	2,032	2,231	4,263
Travel costs	220	128	348	568	623	1,191
Telephone	536	310	846	371	407	778
Office expenses	300	173	473	387	425	812
Subscriptions, FMS fees etc	1,124	651	1,775	1,582	1,737	3,319
Annual Review costs	-	-	-	195	214	409
Sundry expenses	448	259	707	37	42	79
Training/Recruitment	336	194	530	232	254	486
General depreciation	1,347	780	2,127	1,351	1,483	2,834
Book-keeper's services	646	374	1,020	486	534	1,020
Accountancy fees	507	293	800	381	419	800
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>78,603</b>	<b>45,500</b>	<b>124,103</b>	<b>55,658</b>	<b>61,105</b>	<b>116,763</b>

## 4 Staff costs and emoluments

	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	75,180	70,397
Employer's national insurance	7,795	7,204
Pension contributions	3,123	3,009
	<b>86,098</b>	<b>80,610</b>

### Particulars of employees

The average number of employees during the year, calculated on the basis of full-time equivalents, was as follows:

	2025	2024
Staff	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 in the year (2024 - Nil).

# West Sutherland Fisheries Trust

## Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2025

### 5 Trustees remuneration and expenses

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration during the year (2024 - £nil). No expenses were claimed by trustees during the year (2024 - £nil).

### 6 Tangible fixed assets

	Computers, equipment etc £	Motor vehicle £	£
<b>Cost</b>			
At 1 April 2024	23,809	26,536	50,345
At 31 March 2025	23,809	26,536	50,345
<b>Depreciation</b>			
At 1 April 2024	23,672	18,141	41,813
Charge for year	28	2,099	2,127
At 31 March 2025	23,700	20,240	43,940
<b>Net Book Value</b>			
At 31 March 2025	109	6,296	6,405
At 31 March 2023	137	8,395	8,532

### 7 Debtors: falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	-	2,771
Other debtors and prepayments	957	964
	957	3,735

### 8 Creditors: falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	1,564	2,037
Other creditors and accruals	4,709	3,320
	6,273	5,357

# West Sutherland Fisheries Trust

## Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2025

### 9 Reserves

	At 01/04/24 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31/03/25 £
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
DSFB	-	30,000	(15,000)		15,000
Laxford project	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
Nature Scot	-	13,000	(13,000)		-
FMS generated	-	7,500	(7,500)	-	-
	-	60,500	(45,500)	-	15,000
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
Accumulated unrestricted fund	194,662	49,390	(78,603)	-	165,449
<b>Total reserves</b>	<b>194,662</b>	<b>109,890</b>	<b>(124,103)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>180,449</b>

### Represented by:

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Fixed assets	6,405	-	6,405	8,532
Current assets	165,317	15,000	180,317	191,487
Creditors: falling due within one year	(6,273)	-	(6,273)	(5,357)
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>165,449</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>180,449</b>	<b>194,662</b>